

Montana

Department of Labor and Industry Labor Market Information for

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Cities and Towns in Sanders County

Belknap ♦ Camas ♦ Dixon ♦ Helena ♦ Hot Springs

Lonepine ♦ Noxon ♦ Paradise ♦ Perma

Plains ♦ Thompson Falls ♦ Trout Creek

The most current county-by-county information can be found in our quarterly publication *Employment and Labor Force Trends*. And most of our information is on the Internet at <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/>. In addition, we'll do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Provided by the Research & Analysis Bureau
Workforce Services Division
Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P. O. Box 1728, (840 Helena Ave.)
Helena, Montana 59624
Phone 406-444-2430/FAX 406-444-2638
Toll free 800-541-3904
TDD 406-444-0532

Sanders County

Located in northwestern Montana, Sanders County is Montana’s 18th most populous with 10,443 residents, according to the 2001 estimates produced by the U.S. Census Bureau.

According to the *Montana Almanac*, by authors Andrea Merrill and Judy Jacobson, the county was established in 1905 and named after Wilbur Fisk Sanders, pioneer and U.S. senator from Montana. Thompson Falls, the county seat, is the state’s 48th largest city with a population of 1,321. The city is surrounded by millions of acres of National Forest offering a variety of recreational activities, including camping, hunting, berry picking and wildlife viewing. Thompson Falls dam was built in 1917 and visitors can view the spectacular sight from a wooded island. The Clark Fork River runs through the area providing water recreational activities.

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, median income for Sanders County households in 1999 was \$26,852. The county is 2,790.2 square miles in area; 2,762.3 square miles in land area and 27.9 in inland water area.

County residents experience the four distinct seasons. According to the *Western Regional Climate Center* (powerhouse readings), the average daily low in Thompson Falls in January between 1971 and 2000 was 21.6 degrees above zero. The average daily high in July was 82.2 degrees above. The average annual precipitation during the same period was 11.51 inches and the growing season was from June 11 to Sept. 4 (last and first frost).

Sanders County Population

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Area	2001 Census Estimate	2000 Census	1990 Census	1980 Census	% Change '00 to '01	% Change '90 to '00	% Change '80 to '90
Montana	904,433	902,195	799,065	786,690	0.2%	12.9%	1.6%
Sanders County	10,443	10,227	8,669	8,675	2.1%	18.0%	-0.1%
Hot Springs	NA	531	411	601	NA	29.2%	-31.6%
Plains	NA	1,126	992	1,116	NA	13.5%	-11.1%
Thompson Falls	NA	1,321	1,319	1,478	NA	0.2%	-10.8%

Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-2896

NA = not available

County data is available on our website at:
<http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/>

Check Out:

- ♦ **County Profiles** – Includes listings of cities, Top Private Employers, Employment by Industry, Employment & Unemployment, Population, Per Capita Income, Local Resources and more for our most populous counties. (This is the same information you're currently viewing available electronically.)
- ♦ **Employment & Labor Force Trends** – Our quarterly labor force publication contains write-ups on statewide employment trends by industry, specific industry developments around Montana, research articles, etc. Tables present statewide and county employment and unemployment.
- ♦ **ES-202 Program Data** – Industry Employment & Wages reported through the unemployment insurance program.
- ♦ **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)** – Annual Average Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment and Unemployment Rates.
- ♦ **Monthly Press Release Tables and Statistics in Brief publications** – Current Monthly Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment and Unemployment Rates.

Top 10 Private Employers In Sanders County

Listed In Alphabetical Order

Avista Utilities Clark Fork Valley Medical Clinic First State Bank Industrial Design Associates	Lawyer Nursery Quinn's Hot Springs Sander's County Harvest Foods	Spring Creek Lodge Thompson River Lumber Trout Creek Lumber
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Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau.

Third Quarter 2002 Unemployment Insurance Information.

This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

Annual Average Labor Force For Sanders County				
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unem- ployed	Unem- ployment Rate
2002	4,315	3,952	363	8.4%
2001	4,219	3,870	349	8.3%
2000	4,272	3,922	350	8.2%
1999	4,324	3,925	399	9.2%
1998	4,089	3,658	431	10.5%
1997	4,079	3,643	436	10.7%
1996	4,057	3,549	508	12.5%
1995	4,097	3,516	581	14.2%
1994	3,955	3,508	447	11.3%
1993	3,858	3,374	484	12.5%
1992	3,789	3,289	500	13.2%
1991	3,702	3,132	570	15.4%
1990	3,731	3,319	412	11.0%
1989	3,129	2,741	388	12.4%
1988	3,231	2,817	414	12.8%
1987	3,282	2,861	421	12.8%
1986	3,265	2,759	506	15.5%
1985	3,280	2,740	540	16.5%
1984	3,875	3,394	481	12.4%
1983	4,262	3,725	537	12.6%
1982	4,062	3,411	651	16.0%
1981	4,005	3,541	464	11.6%
1980	3,972	3,589	383	9.6%
1979	3,887	3,579	308	7.9%
1978	3,939	3,604	335	8.5%
1977	4,071	3,726	345	8.5%
1976	3,934	3,644	290	7.4%
1975	3,644	3,327	317	8.7%
1974	3,372	3,148	224	6.6%
1973	3,215	3,053	162	5.0%
1972	3,126	2,963	163	5.2%
1971	2,993	2,828	165	5.5%
1970	2,686	2,526	160	6.0%

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau (2002 Benchmark).

Summary of Major Occupational Categories By Gender 2000 Census Employed Persons 16 Years Old and Older - Sanders County			
Occupation	Total	Male	Female
Total	3,952	2,201	1,751
<i>Management, Professional and Related Occupations</i>	<i>1,190</i>	<i>591</i>	<i>599</i>
Management, Business, Financial Operations Occupations	528	306	222
Management (Except Farmers and Farm Managers)	301	177	124
Farmers and Farm Managers	156	113	43
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	71	16	55
Professional and Related Occupations	662	285	377
Education, Training and Library Occupations	297	103	194
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	151	55	96
<i>Service Occupations</i>	<i>623</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>479</i>
Protective Service Occupations	59	43	16
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	259	38	221
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	131	39	92
Personal Care and Service Occupations	125	18	107
<i>Sales and Office Occupations</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>466</i>
Sales and Related Occupations	292	139	153
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	374	61	313
<i>Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Construction, Extraction and Maintenance Occupations</i>	<i>574</i>	<i>552</i>	<i>22</i>
Construction and Extraction Occupations	382	360	22
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	192	192	0
<i>Production, Transportation and Material Moving Occupations</i>	<i>691</i>	<i>535</i>	<i>156</i>
Production Occupations	335	240	95
Motor Vehicle Operators	197	172	25
Material Moving Workers	139	113	26

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Resources

⇒ Chambers of Commerce:

Hot Springs Chamber, Box 580, Hot Springs, MT 59845, 406-741-2662
 Plains-Paradise Chamber, P. O. Box 1531, Plains, MT 59859-1531, 406-826-4700
 Thompson Falls Chamber, 1013 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-4930

⇒ Department of Labor and Industry:

Sanders County Workforce Center

608 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3472,
<http://jsd.dli.state.mt.us/local/thompsonfalls>

Montana Department of Labor & Industry's Research & Analysis Bureau Publications and Website

For information on employment by industry, new businesses, labor market information, profile of the Montana worker, job projections and hourly pay by occupation, contact the office at any of the numbers listed on the front of this publication or check out our Internet website at <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/>.

⇒ Economic Development:

Sanders County Community Development Corporation, P. O. Box 1326,
 Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-6935

⇒ Housing Costs:

Check the Yellow Pages in the local phone directory for the *Real Estate* listings.

⇒ Internet:

Montana Workforce Services home page for job listings at <http://jsd.dli.state.mt.us/>.
 For information on the Internet about cities and towns of Dixon, Heron, Hot Springs, Lonepine, Noxon, Paradise, Plains, Thompson Falls and Trout Creek go to <http://www.visitmt.com> and click on "cities and towns."

⇒ Montana Motor Vehicle Division:

Drivers' Licensing

Thompson Falls—Courthouse, 406-827-6938

⇒ Newspapers:

Valley Press, P. O. Box 667, Plains, MT 59859-0667, 406-826-3402
Sanders County Ledger, P. O. Box 219, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3421,

⇒ Public Libraries:

Laurie Hill Library, Box 128, Heron, MT 59844-0128, 406-847-2520
 Preston Hot Springs Town County Library, 203 E. Main, Hot Springs, MT 59845-0127, 406-741-3491
 Plains Public Library District, 108 W. Railroad, Plains, MT 59859-0339, 406-826-3101
 Thompson Falls Public Library, 911 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873-0337, 406-827-3547

⇒ Superintendent of Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

Camas Prairie Elementary, 781 County Road 382, Plains, MT 59859, 406-741-2837
 Dixon Elementary, P. O. Box 10, Dixon, MT 59831, 406-246-3566
 Hot Springs Public Schools, P. O. Box 1005, Hot Springs, MT 59845, 406-741-3285
 Noxon Public Schools, P. O. Box 1506, Noxon, MT 59853, 406-847-2442
 Paradise Elementary, P. O. Box 126, Paradise, MT 59856, 406-826-3344
 Plains Public Schools, Box 549, Plains, MT 59859, 406-826-3666
 Thompson Falls Public Schools, P. O. Box 129, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3323
 Trout Creek Elementary, 85 Pine St., Trout Creek, MT 59874, 406-827-3629

750 copies of this flier were printed at an estimated cost of \$75.45.

Sanders County Employment By Industry* Annual Averages 2001			
Industry	# of Estab- lish- ments	Average Annual Employ- ment	Annual Wages Paid
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	429	2,782	\$55,789,000
PRIVATE BUSINESS	387	2,087	\$39,021,104
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISH	8	96	\$2,433,777
Agriculture Services	3	7	\$145,050
MINING	5	46	\$975,916
CONSTRUCTION	55	88	\$2,074,406
General Building	23	30	\$569,803
Heavy Construction	6	8	\$182,489
Special Trade	25	60	\$1,322,114
MANUFACTURING	60	350	\$7,534,252
Food Products	3	6	\$87,295
Lumber	38	241	\$5,358,269
Printing-Publishing	3	22	\$291,429
Stone-Clay-Glass	4	24	\$429,151
Nonelectrical Machinery	4	42	\$1,076,085
TRANS., COMMUN., UTILITIES	43	154	\$4,493,411
Local Transportation	6	41	\$214,951
Trucking-Warehousing	27	44	\$919,102
Communications	4	17	\$798,661
Electricity, Gas, Sanitation	8	60	\$2,560,707
WHOLESALE TRADE	13	61	\$1,147,424
Durable Goods	9	40	\$596,684
Nondurable Goods	5	21	\$550,740
RETAIL TRADE	79	441	\$4,890,317
Building Materials-Garden	12	80	\$956,497
Food Stores	13	107	\$1,331,723
Auto Dealers-Service Stations	11	46	\$623,199
Eating & Drinking	30	183	\$1,328,673
Miscellaneous Retail	8	28	\$410,863
FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE	21	101	\$2,136,606
Insurance Agents	4	10	\$145,409
Real Estate	12	20	\$301,338
SERVICES	98	736	\$13,330,029
Hotels & Lodging	8	76	\$721,213
Personal Services	3	9	\$96,288
Business Services	7	60	\$1,182,034
Auto Repair Services	4	10	\$176,818
Miscellaneous Repair Services	4	2	\$28,121
Amusement & Recreation	6	21	\$186,367
Health Services	11	219	\$5,070,577
Legal Services	5	9	\$126,219
Social Services	23	118	\$1,472,439
Membership Organizations	6	15	\$135,768
Engineering Services	12	21	\$403,456
GOVERNMENT	42	694	\$16,767,860
State	10	64	\$1,909,379
Local	17	495	\$10,173,428
Federal	15	134	\$1,385,063

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau

(Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)

*Payroll Employment Covered by Unemployment Insurance

Per Capita Personal Income

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1980	1970
U.S.	\$29,469	\$27,843	\$26,893	\$25,412	\$24,270	\$23,255	\$22,340	\$21,539	\$20,962	\$20,023	\$19,572	\$10,183	\$4,095
Montana	\$22,518	\$21,490	\$21,225	\$19,920	\$19,173	\$18,592	\$17,995	\$17,968	\$17,045	\$16,471	\$15,516	\$9,143	\$3,625
% of National Average	76%	77%	79%	78%	79%	80%	81%	83%	81%	82%	79%	90%	89%
Sanders County	\$16,868	\$16,102	\$15,747	\$14,607	\$14,073	\$13,763	\$13,627	\$13,681	\$13,603	\$12,866	\$12,254	\$7,174	\$2,825
% of National Average	57%	58%	59%	57%	58%	59%	61%	64%	65%	64%	63%	70%	69%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System Released May 2002

PLEASE NOTE: Because of time and budget constraints, we are only able to update our county fliers periodically. Individual tables are updated on a more frequent basis. You can call us if you'd like the most current information for a particular county. The Annual Averages for County Employment By Industry are updated annually, usually in June. The Top Employers are updated annually. Per Capita Personal Income is usually released late spring. Population data for Montana is released in late December and county data in March. The Annual Average Labor Force information is benchmarked annually and numbers available before March. The other tables contain Census information and will be updated every 10 years. You can also look for more current information on our website listed on the front of this publication.

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Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau.

Third Quarter 2002 Unemployment Insurance Information.

This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

Sanders County															
Count of Persons by Age, Race and Sex (2000 Census)															
School Age		White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
						Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female	
5-11		775	376	1	0	61	31	2	1	2	1	38	15	19	15
12-14		485	232	1	1	31	18	3	0	0	0	18	13	15	6
15-17		484	237	1	0	21	9	1	0	3	0	24	15	10	4
18-21		337	146	1	0	28	14	2	1	1	1	12	5	15	10
Total		2,081	991	4	1	141	72	8	2	6	2	92	48	59	35
Working & Voting Age		White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
						Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female	
16+		7,547	3,771	9	1	356	156	26	20	23	11	178	101	109	56
16-64		5,902	2,919	9	1	310	139	22	17	19	9	153	90	97	49
18+		7,236	3,616	9	1	342	150	25	20	20	11	162	89	103	53
18-64		5,591	2,764	9	1	296	133	21	17	16	9	137	78	91	46
Other Age Group		White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
						Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female		Total Female	
0-4		420	195	1	1	30	14	1	1	2	2	28	12	12	4
5-17		1,744	845	3	1	113	58	6	1	5	1	80	43	44	25
18-44		2,541	1,287	8	1	170	81	14	13	9	5	79	51	54	24
45-64		3,050	1,477	1	0	126	52	7	4	7	4	58	27	37	22
65+		1,645	852	0	0	46	17	4	3	4	2	25	11	12	7
Total		9,400	4,656	13	3	485	222	32	22	27	14	270	144	159	82
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF1) 100-Percent Data															
Compiled by: Census & Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, September 2001															

Sanders County			
County of Residence	# Who Work in Sanders County	County of Work	# Who Live in Sanders County
Out of State	83	Out of State	180
Blaine County	2	Big Horn County	7
Flathead County	24	Flathead County	13
Gallatin County	3	Granite County	5
Glacier County	9	Lake County	181
Lake County	100	Lewis & Clark County	6
Lincoln County	19	Lincoln County	12
Mineral County	12	Mineral County	41
Missoula County	19	Missoula County	81
Park County	7	Powell County	4
Ravalli County	4	Ravalli County	17
Sanders County	3,337	Sanders County	3,337
		Silver Bow County	6
		Sweet Grass County	4
		Other Montana Counties	9

Source: 2000 Census Data